

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Pending Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A reclosable bag comprising a receptacle having a mouth, a string zipper joined to said receptacle at said mouth, said string zipper comprising first and second mutually interlockable zipper parts, a slider mounted to said string zipper to cause said first and second zipper parts to separate when said slider is moved in one direction along said string zipper and to cause said first and second zipper parts to interlock when said slider is moved in an opposite direction along said string zipper, and a header panel that is suspended between two zones of attachment generally located at opposite ends of said mouth, wherein said receptacle comprises first and second walls, said slider comprises first and second sidewalls, and each of said first and second zipper parts has a respective back, said first wall having a portion joined to said back of said first zipper part, said joined portion of said first wall being disposed between said back of said first zipper part and said first sidewall of said slider, and said second wall having a portion joined to said back of said second zipper part, said joined portion of said second wall being disposed between said back of said second zipper part and said second sidewall of said slider.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The bag as recited in claim 1, wherein ~~said receptacle comprises first and second walls,~~ respective portions of said first wall, said first zipper part and said header panel are ~~being~~ joined together in said zones of attachment.

Claim 3 (Original): The bag as recited in claim 2, wherein said first and second zipper parts are fused together adjacent said zones of attachment.

Claim 4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The bag as recited in claim [[4]] 1, wherein said header panel comprises first and second portions joined to said second wall, and a third portion not joined to said second wall, said third portion being disposed between said first and second portions and including a portion disposed adjacent said slider.

Claim 6 (Original): The bag as recited in claim 5, wherein said first portion of said header panel is disposed near a first corner of said header panel, said second portion of said header panel is disposed near a second corner of said header panel, and said third portion of said header panel comprises a marginal portion adjacent a free edge of said header panel, said marginal portion connecting said first and second corners of said header panel.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The bag as recited in claim 5, wherein said first and second zipper parts are fused together at first and second ends of said string zipper in shapes that form first and second slider end stops respectively, said first portion of said header panel being disposed adjacent said first slider end stop, and said second portion of said header panel being disposed adjacent said second slider end stop.

Claim 8 (Original): The bag as recited in claim 7, wherein said free edge provides clearance for said slider

during transit of said slider between said first and second slider end stops.

Claim 9 (Original): The bag as recited in claim 1, wherein said header panel has a length equal to the width of said receptacle.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The bag as recited in claim 1, wherein said header panel comprises first and second holes ~~discontinuities~~.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The bag as recited in claim ~~[[10]]~~ 1, wherein said header panel comprises first and second ~~discontinuities are holes or~~ slits.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A reclosable bag comprising:

a zipper comprising first and second zipper strips, said first zipper strip comprising a first base and a first closure profile projecting from said first base, and said second zipper strip comprising a second base and a second closure profile projecting from said second base and engageable with said first closure profile;

a receptacle comprising first and second walls, said first wall comprising a marginal portion joined to said first base of said first zipper strip, and said second wall comprising a marginal portion joined to said second base of said second zipper strip;

a slider mounted on said zipper and movable in opposite directions for opening and closing said zipper, said slider comprising first and second sidewalls; and

a flap comprising first and second portions joined to different portions of said joined second wall and second base, and a third portion not joined to said joined second wall and second base, said third portion being disposed between said first and second portions and including a portion disposed adjacent said slider,

wherein said marginal portion of said first wall is disposed between said base of said first zipper strip and said first sidewall of said slider, and said marginal portion of said second wall is disposed between said base of said second zipper strip and said second sidewall of said slider.

Claim 13 (Original): The bag as recited in claim 12, wherein said first portion of said flap is disposed near a first corner of said flap, said second portion of said flap is disposed near a second corner of said flap, and said third portion of said flap comprises a marginal portion adjacent a free edge of said flap, said marginal portion connecting said first and second corners of said flap.

Claim 14 (Original): The bag as recited in claim 12, wherein said first and second zipper strips are fused together at first and second ends of said zipper in shapes that form first and second slider end stops respectively, said first portion of said flap being disposed adjacent said first slider end stop, and said second portion of said flap being disposed adjacent said second slider end stop.

Claim 15 (Original): The bag as recited in claim 14, wherein said free edge provides clearance for said slider during transit of said slider between said first and second

slider end stops.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The bag as recited in claim 12, wherein said flap comprises first and second holes ~~discontinuities~~.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The bag as recited in claim ~~[[16]]~~ 12, wherein said flap comprises first and second ~~discontinuities are holes or~~ slits.

Claims 18-36 (Canceled).

Claim 37 (Currently Amended): A reclosable bag comprising a receptacle having a mouth, first and second zipper strips installed in said mouth, said first and second zipper strips being fused at opposing ends thereof to form first and second slider end stops and being mutually interlockable between said first and second slider end stops, a slider mounted to said first and second zipper strips and selectively movable between said first and second slider end stops to cause said first and second zipper strips to separate or interlock, and a header panel comprising a first portion attached to said first slider end stop, a second portion attached to said second slider end stop, and a free third portion extending between said attached first and second portions and disposed adjacent said first zipper strip, wherein said third portion of said header panel does not interfere with movement of said slider, wherein said receptacle comprises first and second walls, said slider comprises first and second sidewalls, and each of said first and second zipper strips has a respective back, said first wall having a portion joined to said back of said first zipper part, said joined portion of said first wall being

disposed between said back of said first zipper strip and said first sidewall of said slider, and said second wall having a portion joined to said back of said second zipper strip, said joined portion of said second wall being disposed between said back of said second zipper strip and said second sidewall of said slider.

Claim 38 (Original): The bag as recited in claim 37, wherein said first portion of said header panel is disposed near a first corner of said header panel, said second portion of said header panel is disposed near a second corner of said header panel, and said third portion of said header panel comprises a marginal portion adjacent a free edge of said header panel, said marginal portion connecting said first and second corners of said header panel.

Claim 39 (Original): The bag as recited in claim 37, wherein said header panel comprises at least one opening or slit.

Claims 40 and 41 (Canceled).